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IDENTIFIERS New Britain Public Library CT

ABSTRACT

A project established a Technology Assisted Learning Center (TALC) at the New Britain (Connecticut) Public Library. Software for computer-assisted instruction was purchased in the following areas: drill and practice, educational games, simulation, demonstration, tutorial, and problem solving. Problems were encountered with regard to interactive video (compact disc) selection, purchase, organization, storage, and set up of software, equipment, and peripherals. Some library staff were trained to use software and equipment. One training workshop was conducted for Literacy Volunteers of America Tutor Trainers. Library staff and Literacy Volunteers planned jointly the procedures to implement and evaluate the center, including guidelines and a user contract. Despite problems, project staff planned to integrate the center with continuing services at the New Britain Public Library. (Appended are: a copy of the budget expenditures; an annotated bibliography of 44 New Britain Public Library computer software packages; rules and regulations on public access to microcomputers; a microcomputer user contract; procedures for microcomputer use; and an annotated listing of 10 compact discs for education available at the New Britain Public Library.) (YLB)

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Project Title: TECHNOLOGY ASSISTED LEARNING CENTER

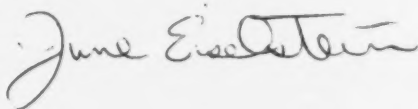
PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION RECEIVING GRANT:

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
20 HIGH STREET
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051

2. NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON PREPARING THIS REPORT.

June Eiselstein
(203) 224-3155



3. GRANT NUMBER: R167A80110

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PART II: NARRATIVE REPORT

EVALUATION

The goal of our project was to establish a Technology Assisted Learning Center (TALC) at the New Britain Public Library. Originally, the objectives of the project were to:

1. Select software, interactive video, and other technologies.
2. Purchase \$9000 worth of materials (resources)
3. Purchase equipment necessary to run learning materials (two sets each if budget allows)
4. Present the elements necessary to integrate technology (computer software, Language Master, video, etc. into library and learning environment by a series of 12 workshops.)
5. Train staff, at least four, from three major departments, to assist tutors and students with technology
6. Train two tutor trainers to integrate technology into their instruction
7. Implementation. Open Center for use.
8. Evaluate project

Software and other technology was selected based upon the evaluations done by the Adult Basic Skills Technology Project, Merrimac Educational Center, Project Leap and the Literacy Program at the Mary. H. Weir Public Library as planned. Computer-assisted-instruction (CAI) and interactive video (CD-I) will enable tutors to combine meaningful learner interaction with quality drill and practice. Technology is also effective for independent learners and English as a Second Language students.

June Eiselstein, project manager, together with the tutor trainers in the LVA-New Britain affiliate, had planned on visiting project sites in Springfield and Cambridge, Mass. Springfield Public Library and Cambridge Public Library had recently set up projects of their own. These visits did not occur as the personnel and expertise among the tutor trainers in the LVA-New Britain affiliate changed. Software and equipment was to be evaluated at the Merrimac Educational Center in

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Chelmsford, Mass. Merrimac is no longer allowing this. We experienced technical difficulties in getting the project off the ground due to equipment problems. We did not have enough money to bring in a speaker for a workshop. The speaker was to receive an honorarium but this was cut out of the budget during the budget revision process.

We purchased materials* in the following areas:

APPLICATIONS	CHARACTERISTICS	BEST USE
Drill & Practice	Presents a series of structured problems or exercises with immediate feedback to student responses.	To provide opportunities for practice when mastery of a new skill or information is desired. Should be used after initial instruction.
Educational Games	Combines skill and chance opportunities for practice in an entertaining context.	To provide motivating and engaging opportunities for practice after a skill or new information has been taught.
Simulation	Imitates real life or hypothetical situations. Allows students to interact and modify variables.	To provide opportunity for independent experimentation, where students can apply principles, discover relationships, and test assumptions in a realistic context.
Demonstration	Shows physical objects, systems and processes through graphics and text; is similar to an animated film.	To support the introduction of new information in a classroom or group presentation. Also used as an individual review tool after a group presentation.
Tutorial	Introduces new information on a step-by-step basis with frequent quizzes and feedback.	To introduce new material when objectives and information are clearly specified. Best used with student who either must work individually or prefer to work alone.
Problem Solving	Requires students to apply known information to new settings. Demands logical thinking and the ability to follow directions carefully.	To develop student skills in logic, problem solving and following directions. Best used with three students or fewer in independent study arrangements.

*See attached list.

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It was far more difficult to identify the CD-I materials for the project. Products which we wished to acquire were still in development at projects conclusion. Equipment for CD-I was added through advise from John Fleishman and Lucy MacDonald, Adult Technology Consultants. There were many problems in getting software, equipment and peripherals working together. Supplies were identified and ordered by library staff for organizing and storing the collection.

When selecting material, one needs to use it first, to be sure that it is at an appropriate reading level and interest level for the student. This was a time consuming task. Storage of the materials presented a problem. There was a delay in processing the materials and getting them shelf ready. Our Technical Processing Department was short several staff members due to unexpected leaves of absences.

Library staff was to be instructed through a series of Technical Workshops to use the software and equipment. Selected staff members have been trained to use selected programs on a one to one basis. Our goal was four from the three major departments at the library. We have managed to train three. Additional training will be provided. Library staff must be prepared to trouble shoot the equipment if an independent learner encounters problems while working with the equipment. The planned workshops for the entire staff have not transpired due to scheduling and equipment problems. Library staff member, Sandy Johnson, prepared the annotated listings of the holdings of the collection. This annotated listing is attached.

Eiselstein held one workshop for the Tutor Trainers of the LVA-NB affiliate. The tutor trainers were to be trained to assist the volunteers in 1. developing models of integrated instruction and 2. the technical training the library staff receives. Eiselstein will now be working with the LVA-CT State Office staff to develop models of integrated instruction to become a part of the regular training. The tutor trainers at the New Britain Affiliate were unwilling to devote regular training time to this integrated instruction. So it is necessary to attach the problem from the State Office.

Staff was unable to explain in tutor training workshops (conducted by the Tutor Trainers, Giles and Genovese) how to make the best use of the library collection for their students use. This did not happen because workshops were not scheduled on the library site during the grant period. However, library staff was able to explain how to make the best use of the library collection for ABE instructors and students from the Consolidated School District of New Britain.

Materials selected through this grant will be more accessible to ESL students and adults with low level reading skills via interactive video/CD-I (laser disc) and other optical media. CD-I makes possible a new teaching resource for tutors, the visual database. LVA-CT and LVA-NB staff need to acquaint themselves to this new media. Placed in the hands of a caring tutor, this tool can enrich the learning process in vivid and imaginative ways.

Angela Atwater, Associate Director of the LVA-CT State Office, and I were scheduled to do a program at the Connecticut Library Association Conference about Computer Assisted Instruction. Attendance was four. (We were scheduled opposite Anne Matthews, U. S. Dept. of Education.)

A workshop for Reference Librarians of the Capitol Region Library Council on Literacy Materials scheduled for December 20, 1989 will be rescheduled for the New Year, January 31

Library staff and Literacy Volunteers planned jointly the procedures to implement and evaluate the Technology Assisted Learning Center (TALC). We have guidelines and a user contract developed through that joint conference. (See attached.)

One of the tutor trainers for LVA-NB dropped out of the project due to illness and another got married which further setback the project activities. Both are back working, now. This project has been riddled with staffing problems. The money to staff a position is needed for the project to be completely successful.

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A graphic artist, on staff part time, was to design brochures to publicize the center. The graphic artist left for full time employment at another library. We were to have brochures professionally printed. The money for this activity was cut out of the budget during the revision process. Press releases were to be done each quarter to publicize the project. We have had one press release and that was the announcement of the funds being granted for the project. However, the project is really not fully opened to the public yet. Access to it is limited because of the training and equipment problems. LVA-NB newsletter, Friends of the Library Newsletter, the local public schools newsletter to parents will be other means of publicizing the center, as well as in the newly formed Great Swamp Literacy Coalition Newsletter. There will be additional publicity for the project when the Technology Assisted Learning Center opens to the general public in January 1990.

The projected time frame was shot to pieces due to equipment problems and delays in identifying the CD-I materials. Here is what happened. (The larger print font was the original schedule, the smaller font is what transpired.)

October	88	Software, technical materials and equipment will be selected and ordered.
July	1989	Software and CD-I ordered
November	88	Training of the staff and Tutor Trainers
November 88 - September 89		Staff training on one to one basis. Tutor training, November 1988
February	89	Tutor Trainers will conduct workshops for tutors.
		Tutor trainers conducted three workshops for tutors.
March	89	The center will open, tutors and students should begin using the technology.

December	89	It is now December 1989 and the Center hasn't fully opened to the public. Staff is anxious and we have had a series of break-ins in the downtown business district. The burglars are after computer equipment. The library was broken into but they did not get the equipment.
September	89	Evaluation
December	89	Evaluation of a project which is incomplete is not possible. At the conclusion of the grant period a survey of TALC users was to be conducted. We were to analyze the information collected in order to identify patterns of usage or problems. This did not happen. Throughout the training period evaluations were to be done on the training the staff, tutor trainers, and tutors receive. Statistics will be kept on the usage of the equipment (Hours in use). We will not be able to keep a count of software which will be circulated (in house) as most of it is stored on the Hard Discs. We will want to know which software packages or other technologies have been most useful. So we will have to survey the users for this information also, instead of taking a count of software circulated.

We still plan on the Technology Assisted Learning Center becoming integrated with the continuing services at the New Britain Public Library. ~~Staff continues to be trained and the service will be integrated into the~~ regular operation of the Library, January 1990. The money to cover the insurance on the equipment and software will come out of the library's regular budget. This project complements the work started in April of 1988 when LVA-CT selected New Britain Public Library as one of three library sites to expand its computer assisted learning program. Also it is part of the Long Range Plan for the library to implement and continue projects such as the TALC. We hope an LSCA Title VI grant will be received to further develop this concept. We've learned the hard way from our setbacks

Successful projects in Weirton, WV at the Mary H. Weir Public Library and with Project LEAP at Richmond Public Library in Richmond, CA have one thing in common, a staff position devoted to the project. Our project director was responsible for setting up the program in West Virginia and should have delegated aspects of the project here in Connecticut. They were not delegated due to staffing shortages.

CONCLUSION

We still envision technology working for Adult Basic Skills Learners by providing motivation and immediate reinforcement. Technology will also aid LVA-NB volunteers which has an unmet demand for tutors as their staffing situation improves. Full service for the TALC will be available all library hours beginning in January 1990. Library staff has and will learn more about literacy and computers and the LVA-NB staff and tutors will learn more about library resources. Tutors will also be able to make more effective use of their time, efficiently individualize and customize lessons, provide quality control on practice and have a greatly enhanced resource available to them. This will improve, when the information is given as part of the basic skills training tutors undertake instead of through supplemental training, inservice workshops.

BUDGET INFORMATION

LINE 6A	PERSONNEL SALARIES	
	JUNE EISELSTEIN	12.86 HOURS X 20 = \$257.25
LINE 6D	EQUIPMENT	
	2 MAC SE HD20 W/KYBRO	4966.00
	APPLE CD SC W/CABLES	895.30
	CABLES	411.00
	PERPHRL 8PIN CBL	41.94
	HIGH PERF. LASER PLAYER	<u>1150.00</u>
		\$7515.03
LINE 6E	SUPPLIES	\$847.00
	4 FILE HANGERS FOR DISK	52.00
	20 FILE HANGERS FOR DISK	208.00
	4 PKGS DISKETTES DS, HD 3.5	212.00
	4 FORM PRINT/OUT PAPER	150.00
	1 FILE ON ROLLERS	<u>225.00</u>
LINE 6G	LIBRARY MATERIALS	
	BOOKS	228.55
	SOFTWARE & VIDEO DISCS	<u>7467.11</u>
		\$7715.66
LINE 6H	OTHER - FREIGHT	\$156.23

PART III BUDGET EXPENDITURES

OBJECT CLASS CATAGORIES	PROMOTION	MATERIALS ACQ	LIBRARY USE	TRAINING	TOTAL
A. PERSONNEL				\$257 25	\$257.25
B. FRINGE BENEFITS					
C. TRAVEL					
D. EQUIPMENT			\$7515 03		\$7515.03
E. SUPPLIES			\$847.00		\$847.00
F. CONTRACTUAL					
G. LIBRARY MATERIALS		\$7715.66			\$7715.66
H. OTHER		\$156 23			\$156.23
I. TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES					
J. INDIRECT CHARGES					
K. TOTALS		\$7871 89	\$8362 03	\$257 25	\$16491 17

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMPUTER SOFTWARE

An Annotated Bibliography

- Alphabetical Blocks. Bright Star Technology, Inc., 1988.
Tutor program for children or adults with the Talking Elf. Teaches phonics sounds and letter names.
- American History Adventure. Queue Intellectual Software, 1985.
Reporter-simulated, journey through time interviewing people who shaped American History. (Takes 2 hours playing time with correct responses and 30 minutes playing time with incorrect choices.)
- Calculus. Sensei Software, 1989.
Self-paced basic introductory calculus tutor program.
- Calendar Maker. CE Software, Inc., 1985-1988.
Enables creation of individualized calendars.
- Cricket Draw. Cricket Software, 1988.
Presents sophisticated drawing techniques for more advanced art.
- Cricket Graph. Cricket Software, 1987.
An easy and quick graphic presentation program for science and business.
- Cricket Paint. Cricket Software, 1988.
Program allows artistic flexibility as a black and white painting application for Macintosh computers.
- Cricket Presents. Cricket Software, 1988.
Easy to use comprehensive, professional desktop presentation package.
- Crossword Magic. L & S Computerware, 1987.
Flexible crossword processor.
- Developing Writing Skills. Queue Intellectual Software, 1985.
Composition improvement program using a question format for students working on a fifth to eighth grade level. Disc 1 concentrates on word choice, disc 2 on sentence structure and disc 3 on paragraph development.
- Dollars and Sense. Monogram Software, Inc., 1987.
Personal financial management program.
- Geometry. Sensei Software, 1988.
Self-paced basic geometry course with over 350 problems. Enables graphic concept experimentation. Compatible with all major textbooks.

How to Spell. Queue Intellectual Software, 1985.

Comprehensive tutorial program of correct spelling rules for students, grades four to seven.

HyperEasy. Personal Training Systems, 1988.

Audio training series for HyperCard, a self-paced cassette tutor tape.

Learning Parts of Speech. Queue Intellectual Software, 1985.

Series of six discs for children in grades five through eight. Parts of speech programs on nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and propositions.

Lessons In Reading and Reasoning. Queue Intellectual Software, 1985.

Lessons in critical reading skills for use with high school, college and adult education students. Program contains five discs with 6-10 lesson modules each.

MacDraw II. Claris Corporation, 1988.

Easy to learn and use advanced program features for precise and intricate professional design tasks.

MacMoney. Survivor Software, Ltd., 1988.

All-around financial management program for the home or small business.

MacWrite II, Getting Started. Claris Corporation, 1989.

Latest Macintosh word processing program with a hands-on tutorial.

Managing Your Money. MECA Ventures, Inc., 1988.

Personal, centralized software of integrated finance control programs.

Math Blaster! Davidson & Associates, Inc., 1985.

Program designed to help grades 1-6 students learn basic math facts. (2 copies)

Mavis Beacon Teachers Typing! The Software Toolworks, 1987.

Program establishes four typing learning 'centers' and provides 19 self-monitoring graphs.

PageMaker: Aldus Corporation, 1987-1988.

Desktop publishing software offering a wide range of options for the business professional or professional designer.

Physics. Sensei Software, 1987.

Self-paced, basic introductory physics tutor program.
(2 copies)

Poster Maker Plus. Strider Software, 1987.

A graphics scaling tool with fancy styling capabilities - with smooth font text.

The Print Shop. Broderbund Software, Inc., 1986.

Part of the Creative Workshop series. Allows user to design & print cards, stationary, flyers and banners.

Q-Art Vol.I. Queue Intellectual Software, 1985.

Selection, modification and printing options for more than 200 original MacPaint pictures.

Reader Rabbit. The Learning Company, 1987.

Imaginative children's educational program of 20 three-letter words and 70 pictures. (2 copies)

Ready Set Go! Letraset, 1987.

Simple publishing program providing word processing, typesetting, and graphic operations.

Red Ryder. FreeSoft Company, 1987.

Shareware marketing, multiple features, such as command procedure language, file transfers, text review & selection, clipboard and printer support, etc.

Resumé Writer. ~~Bootware Software Company, Inc., 1986.~~

Program uses Desktop Publishing Document Creation to produce customized personal resúmes. (2 student copies, 2 professional copies)

Simple Accounting: For Small Business. Bedford Software Corporation, 1986.

Simple program operation and accounting manual outlining bookkeeping fundamentals.

Speed Reader II. Davidson & Associate, Inc., 1985.

Six exercises designed to increase reading speed, comprehension and retention.

Superpaint. Silicon Bead Software, 1988.

Graphics Software with painting and drawing capabilities in a single program.

Type. Broderbund Software, Inc., 1989.

Easy, yet sophisticated, touch typing program.

Typing Made Easy. QED Information Sciences, Inc., 1985.

Part of the Better Working series from Spinnaker.
Easy and quick, learn and touch type program.

Typing Tutor IV with Letter Invaders. Kriya Systems, Inc., 1983.

Monitors responses, custom designs lessons & tests to match individual student level.

Where in Europe is Carmen Sandiego? Broderbund Software, Inc., 1988.

Computer learning in game situation. Map Reading, research and problem solving. Exploration of 34 European Nations.

Where in the U.S.A is Carmen Sandiego? Broderbund Software, Inc., 1986.

Computer learning game situation - exploration of U.S. geography. Covers 50 states.

Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego? Broderbund Software, Inc., 1989.

Game situation, computer learning world geography program. Covers 30 cities.

Word Attack. Davidson & Associates, Inc., 1986.

A six-part, vocabulary building program.

Write Now 2.0 NEXT, Inc., 1989.

Small document processor that lets you enter, format and edit text. Can copy text or pictures.

WINGZ. Informik Software, Inc., 1988.

Sophisticated spreadsheet product that also offers graphics for charts, illustrations and text reports.

XPress. Quark, 1986-1989.

Publishing tool that integrates word processing, typesetting, graphics and page layout.

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New Britain Public Library
20 High Street
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PUBLIC ACCESS TO MICROCOMPUTERS

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Any person eight years of age or older may use the microcomputer on his/her own after he/she has demonstrated ability or taken the library's computer literacy orientation and signed a user's contract. Children under eight may use the microcomputer with a qualified adult.
2. A qualified adult must assume financial responsibility and sign a user's contract for children under the age of 18. (A child under eight may use the microcomputer with a qualified adult who must assume responsibility for him/her self and for the child. The adult must sign the user's contract for himself and the child.)
3. Time on computers is limited to two hours unless no one is waiting. Two individuals at a time may use the computer together (i.e. literacy volunteer and student, parent and child, brother and sister.....).
4. Library staff is available for minimal assistance.
5. Reservations may be made up to one week in advance and may be made the same day by phone. *Only two reservations a week are allowed. Reservations will be held only 15 minutes past starting time or person forfeits time. Drop-in use is encouraged as long as it does not interfere with reserved time. Valid library card must be shown. Two software programs at a time may be checked out for use in the library.*
6. New Britain Public Library may revoke privileges for misuse.
7. You may bring in your own software on which to work, however recreational games are excluded. You may also bring your own paper for the printer and work diskettes. The library will not sell blank diskettes.
8. Law prohibits the copying of software. Anyone copying software will have his/her privileges revoked.
9. The library reserves the right to discontinue microcomputer use privileges for failure to obey microcomputer or general library rules or regulations.
10. MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HELP DEFRAY COSTS. (SUCH AS \$1.00 PER HOUR OF USE TIME) Money collected is used to buy new software, supplies such as paper and printer ribbons or to cover the cost of Equipment Maintenance.

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MICROCOMPUTER USER CONTRACT

For the purpose of this agreement the term microcomputer shall include all physically attached hardware both local and remote, plus software which includes all programs or other sequences of instruction that the microcomputer processor can be enabled to carry out. This includes but is not limited to firmware, applications software, and systems software such as resident monitor program, language translators and operating systems.

I understand and agree to follow the regulations and conditions governing the use of the microcomputer at the New Britain Public Library.

I also agree to pay the cost of replacement or repair for those microcomputer items lost or damaged while in my use or care.

I acknowledge that the library reserves the right to discontinue microcomputer use privileges for failure to obey microcomputer or general library rules or regulation.

The New Britain Public Library will not be responsible for injury or damages to individuals or possessions of individuals or groups resulting from use of the microcomputer.

Date _____

Name _____ Address _____

Library Card Number _____

Name of person assuming financial responsibility: _____

Signature, has read and agreed to the
above contract and the attached microcomputer use regulations.

Library Card Number _____

New Britain Public Library
20 High Street
New Britain, CT 06051
(203) 224-3155

PROCEDURES - MICROCOMPUTER USE

1. Ask for Microcomputer User Contract to sign. User can collect FORM from any public service desk.
2. Collect user contract - any Circulation staff member.
3. To check Demonstrated Ability ask.
 - a. Have you ever operated a microcomputer before? or Do you have a computer at home or at school that you use?
 - b. If yes, what type? or
 - c. If no, brief orientation will be provided.
 - d. If interested, you may sign up for a computer literacy workshop.
4. Put stamp on back of library card. Put note in database (number code L3P 002 in field 4). Two stamps needed one with MC and one for revoking.
5. Book for sign in/out (reserving time and software) use will be found and kept next to the microcomputers.
6. MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HELP DEFRAY COSTS.
\$1.00 per hour of use time.

Money collected is used to buy new software, supplies such as paper and printer ribbons OR to cover the cost of EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE.

COMPACT DISC'S FOR EDUCATION

Available for viewing at the New Britain Public Library:

ELECTRONIC MAP CABINET: Custom design and print any U. S. map (lower 48). Adjust scale, annotate, and cut and paste into other graphics programs. Contains street -level detail for over 300 SMSA's and MSA's.

THE NEW GROLIER ELECTRONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA: Features the most current edition of *The Academic American Encyclopedia*. Contains more than 30,000 articles. The entire text of the 21 volume encyclopedia is stored on a single compact disc. Allows searches by title, word, or phrase of the latest information on science, contemporary life, law, sports, and much more.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM I: Includes aircraft history from early flying machines to 1940 aircraft. About 100,000 frames, index included.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM II: Includes aircraft not covered on Disc I. Includes balloons, airships and commercial airlines. About ~~100,000 frames, index included.~~

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM III: Includes aircraft from the U. S. Air Force. Most are from World War II and pre 1940 planes. Index included.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM IV: Companion disc to volume III. More aircraft from the U. S. Air Force. Index included.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM V: Includes history of NASA and the U. S. Space Program. Also includes a series of NASA press releases and photographs, many in color, taken during the Shuttle missions STS-1 through STS-61C.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART: Combines over 1,600 still images, the equivalent of \$800 worth of photographic slides, with a fascinating documentary of the museum's development and an absorbing guided tour through its many galleries. Also includes individual paintings, prints, drawings, and works of sculpture. HyperCard stacks (Laserguide) index.

TIME TABLE OF SCIENCE AND INNOVATION: Over 6,000 stories cover scientific discoveries and technological innovations dating from the theoretical "Big Bang" to the present-day superconductors and computers. Runs with HyperCard.

YOU BE THE REPORTER: Play reporter as you learn basic writing skills while viewing clips of events such as a robbery, space experiments, and Mt. St. Helens. Develops skills in listening, note taking, organization, evaluation and writing.

Compact Disc's for Education Available at the New Britain Public Library